

Previewing: A Textbook Reading Strategy

Why do we lose concentration or have difficulty remembering? Most often we are not adequately prepared for the reading task. Previewing is a preparation strategy to improve our ability to focus on and remember our assignments.

Benefits of Previewing:

- **Better concentration:** Because you understand what you are reading about you can concentrate more fully.
- **Better memory:** In asking yourself: What's it about?, How's it organized?, and What's important?, you are actively thinking, processing and storing the information you read.
- **It's fast:** Previewing only takes 5 minutes and with improved concentration you'll be able to spend less time reading!

Previewing Steps: Remember THIEVES

Spend no more than 5 minutes!

- **Title:**
- **Headings:** Ask yourself: How is it organized?
- **Introduction:** Ask yourself: What is it about?
- **Every First Sentence**
- **Visuals, Vocabulary**
- **End of Chapter Questions**
- **Summary/Conclusion:** Ask yourself: What's important?

If my preview session was successful, I should be able to answer these questions:

- What is it about?
- How is it organized?
- What's important?